



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Mr. Vaux announced the decease of Mr. Thos. Biddle, late a member of this Academy.

On motion of Mr. Cassin, the thanks of the Academy were presented to Mr. J. H. Slack for his valuable donations to the Ethnological collection received this evening.

June 23d, 1857.

Mr. ORD, President, in the Chair.

Mr. Vaux read a letter from Mr. John Biddle, dated June 11th, 1857, accompanying the crania of Thugs presented this evening.

My late brother-in-law Wm. A. Foster, in 1836 (at which time we were both residing in Calcutta) applied to Dr. Martin, E. I. Co.'s Surgeon, and the leading physician of that city, to procure for him the skulls of some Thugs. Dr. M. did not succeed in obtaining them until the latter part of 1837, at which time Mr. F. had left India for the United States. As I was still there, Dr. M. sent them to me for Mr. F., and I shipped the lot, consisting of six, to Philadelphia. On their arrival, Mr. F. was absent from the United States, and had transferred them to me.

Dr. Martin, in his note accompanying them, stated that they were the heads of *notorious* Thugs, who had recently been hung by direction of the Court for the suppression of Thuggee established by the E. I. Co.; and I entertain no doubt of the correctness of his statement.

As to the province of Hindoostan, to which the birth place of these six Thugs should be referred, Dr. M. said nothing, and probably knew nothing. Neither did he inform me in which district they were tried and executed; but at the period at which he procured them, Thuggee was practised much more extensively in the region about the head waters of the Ganges than in the province of Bengal; and I presume that they were obtained from the former region.

Two of the six skulls were sent by me to our late friend Dr. Samuel G. Morton, in W. A. Foster's name. I suppose them to be the same which appear in the Catalogue of Crania belonging to the Academy. Two others I presented to George Combe, of Scotland, when on a visit to our city, many years ago; and the remaining two you now have.

Mr. Lea presented for publication a paper entitled "Descriptions of twenty-seven New Species of Uniones from Georgia," which was referred to a committee.

June 30th, 1857.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

The Committees to whom were referred the following papers, reported in favor of their publication.

Notes on the Geology of the Mauvaises Terres of White River, Nebraska.

BY F. V. HAYDEN, M. D.

This interesting lacustrine deposit has but recently been made known to the scientific world,—wonderful not alone for its unique scenery, but also for the abundance and importance of its organic remains; and although it has been as yet but partially explored, the results that have been obtained have proved of the highest interest. The profusion of Mammalian and Chelonian remains which have been entombed in its strata, of species and, in most cases, genera, though closely allied, yet differing from all known living forms, its purely fresh-1857.]